



Cypress Creek Sub Area III Exposure Investigation

Exposure Investigation

An exposure investigation in Cypress Creek Sub Area III is one way that we can find out if the pesticides in soil have gotten into people's **homes** or into their **bodies**.

It is important to know:

An exposure investigation is NOT a health study.

What are the determining factors for an exposure investigation?

When deciding whether or not to do this exposure investigation, Tennessee Department of Health, Environmental Epidemiology (EEP) asked and answered the following questions:

1. Can an exposed population be identified?

Yes, we want to look closely at homes and people who are most likely to have the biggest potential exposures.

2. Does a data gap exist that affects the ability to determine if a public health hazard exists? In other words, do we need more information?

Yes, we do not know if the pesticides have gotten in homes or into people.

3. Can an exposure investigation address data gaps?

Yes, we can measure pesticides in household dust and in people.

4. Would the exposure investigation impact public health decisions?

Yes, if excess exposure is found, we will consider further remediation and consider doing health studies.

How is an exposure investigation done?

During this exposure investigation, EEP will gather information in different ways.



Bio-medical testing will be done. We will draw blood from people who are likely to be exposed the most. (These people have the highest concentrations of dieldrin in their yards.) We will analyze their blood for dieldrin and endrin.



Environmental testing is also an important piece of information gathered and evaluated during an exposure investigation. We will take dust samples from the homes with the highest concentration of dieldrin in their yards. We will analyze the dust for dieldrin and endrin.



After EEP has gathered this information, we will compare the amounts of the chemicals found in the people in the community to the average amounts found in people in the U.S. We will also analyze the amounts of dieldrin and endrin found in the household dust. After analyzing the results, we will write an Exposure Investigation Report and share it with the community.

What is learned from an exposure investigation?

- We will find out if soil contaminated with dieldrin and endrin found its way into houses in the form of dust.
- We will also find out if the dieldrin and endrin have gotten into people in the community.

What is the community's involvement during the exposure investigation?

The community is a very important part of the exposure investigation. EEP cannot do an exposure investigation without community involvement. For the exposure investigation to be successful, we need:



- Community interest
- Community input
- Community members' consent for testing

It is important for the community to understand what the exposure investigation results may or may not tell them, before it begins. All of these items are crucial for a successful exposure investigation.

[For more information, contact:](#)

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